

# Incredible Treasure

What do you have that is valuable? Are you a collector? Most people have a collection of something or other that they have had for a long time that has sentimental significance. It could be a collection of angels, coins, salt & pepper shakers, china, baskets, fishing equipment, golf accessories, or even an antique. I once had a friend that had 250,000 baseball cards. He had several Johnny Bench cards, because he was the man. Over the years I have collected coins, guitars, knives, and watches. These were at one time very important to me. The funny thing is that I don't have any of these collections anymore because they have just become "stuff."

When Paul was writing his second letter to the people of Corinth he wanted the people to see what they really had by being followers of Christ. The people of that day



## JUST A THOUGHT

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were much like the people of today. They dreamed of being wealthy, but didn't understand that they already were. If you take the time to read II Corinthians 4:1-7, you will see that they had something special in Christ, and Paul called it a 'treasure.' Paul called it incredible treasure, and he

wanted to be sure the people understood exactly what had been given to them.

Paul stressed the importance of understanding we are all 'ministers' of the Gospel. What does that mean? Let's take a moment and look at what we have:

1. We have a Divine call – The same God who saved us and forgave us of our sin called every one of us to be His ministers. This is not an optional call, it is real, and we must be about the Father's business. He has called us to be His servants, His messengers, and His witnesses to an abundant life. This call is not something we deserve. We can never be worthy of His mercy and grace (Romans 5:8).

2. We have a trustworthy life - There is an entire list of qualifications given in I Timothy 3, concerning workers in the church. These qualifications are largely based on an individual who has special

skills and consistently displays them. Paul's ministry was lined with honesty. Jesus told His disciples in John 8:32 that the truth shall set us free. Honesty is a must as a minister. He also stressed integrity as an intricate part of his life. In II Corinthians 4:2, Paul renounced secret and shameful ways. He wanted the believers to know that he never used deception as a part of his work. We must live life openly, available for all to see. God wants us to be transparent. There is no greater hindrance than the

loss of credibility.

3. We have an authentic message – One form of deception Paul had observed was a willingness to distort the Word of God (verse 2). Paul warned Timothy to rightly divide the Word (II Timothy 2:15), and there is nothing less that is acceptable. Realizing we have an authentic Word helps us want to convey its demand to others. The people wanted to mix Judaism with the New Covenant. We can distort the Gospel by reducing its demand (Romans 6:1, 2). We distort God's Word in

favor of our own word. We must understand that what we have to say is nothing in comparison to what God says.

4. We have a clear focus (verse 5) – Sometimes we forget to keep the first things first, but when it comes to Christ, we must remember He is our message. We are prone to believe that what we have to say is important, but it is not our words, our church, or our denomination. We have been richly blessed in Christ Jesus, and He has given us an incredible treasure. The key questions is, "Will you use it?"

## Taylor University student newspaper captures second place in ICPA contest

The Echo, Taylor University's student newspaper, captured six first place awards, seven second place awards, and one third place award to finish second in Division 3 of the spring 2021 Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) contest.

In addition to Taylor, the ICPA's Division 3 includes Anderson University, Goshen College, Manchester College, and Wabash College.

Junior Holly Gaskill won four awards – three firsts and a second. Sophomore Markus Miller also won four individual awards with a first, two seconds, and a third-place award. Additionally, The Echo's editorial board won a second-place award for an op-ed piece.

"The Echo team's recognition at this statewide level is well-deserved," said Dr. Alan Blanchard, Associate Professor of Journalism and

the faculty adviser for the newspaper.

"The Echo is made up of great team of students from a variety of majors from across campus," Blanchard added. "The students work very hard creating compelling, interesting stories week in and week out. And the Taylor University community benefits from their creative skills and talents that include writing, editing, photography, graphic design, and more."

Answers to puzzle on Page 12

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  |    | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 |    |    |    | 12 |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |
|    | 18 |    |    |    | 19 | 20 |    |    | 21 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    | 22 | 23 |    |    | 24 |    |    |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 31 |    |    |    |    |
| 32 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
|    |    |    |    |    | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    | 43 |    |    | 44 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 45 | 46 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 47 | 48 |    |    |    | 49 |    |    | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 |
| 55 |    |    |    |    | 56 |    |    |    | 57 |    | 58 |
| 59 |    |    |    |    | 60 |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |
| 62 |    |    |    |    | 63 |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Prevents harm to young  
5. "Losing My Religion" rockers  
8. Partner to pan  
11. Cavalry unit  
13. Peyton's little brother  
14. Mexican dish  
15. Disseminates info to the public  
16. Set an animal on  
17. Canadian flyers  
18. Elongated mouths of  
anthropods  
20. I (German)  
21. Opposite of west  
22. Glows  
25. Measures how quickly a  
car moves  
30. One who has gained wealth  
31. Patti Hearst's captors
32. Extensive landed property  
33. Male aristocrat  
38. For each  
41. More fidgety  
43. Very happy  
45. A place to store info  
47. Helps to heal  
49. 12th month (abbr.)  
50. Broad, shallow craters  
55. Nocturnal S. American rodent  
56. Frost  
57. Ethiopian town  
59. Curved shapes  
60. Company that rings receipts  
61. Spiritual leader  
62. Sheep native to Sweden  
63. Cars need it  
64. Partner to relaxation

### CLUES DOWN

1. Scientist's high-resolution  
tool (abbr.)  
2. Type of school  
3. Formal close (music)  
4. Transmits high voltage  
5. A way to occupy a certain area  
6. Draws out  
7. His Airness  
8. Nocturnal rodents  
9. South American plants  
10. Homestead  
12. Bland or semiliquid food  
14. Forest resident  
19. The body needs it  
23. Atomic mass unit (abbr.)  
24. Spell  
25. Relaxing place  
26. Political fundraising tool  
27. Make a mistake  
28. Partner to Adam
29. Tyrant  
34. Unit of electrical resistance  
35. A history of one's life  
36. Actor DiCaprio  
37. Sea eagle  
39. Avoiding being caught  
40. \_\_ de Mornay, actress  
41. Belonging to a thing  
42. Not us  
44. Motorcars  
45. Capital of Bangladesh  
46. Ancient Greek sophist  
47. Practice boxing  
48. \_\_ Grant, actor  
51. Swiss river  
52. S. Sudan river  
53. A bumpkin  
54. One point south of southwest  
58. Small island (British)

## SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 8 | 1 |   |   | 7 |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 9 |
|   | 5 |   | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 3 | 8 | 7 |   | 6 |
|   | 6 |   | 5 |   |   |   | 9 |   |
| 4 |   |   |   |   | 6 |   |   | 8 |
|   |   |   |   | 5 |   | 6 | 4 | 2 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 5 |
|   |   | 4 | 9 |   |   |   |   | 1 |

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Answers to puzzles on Page 12